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From Guardalupa, March 17.

ON the 7th Instant Colonel *Codrington*, Governor of Her Majesty's *Leeward* Islands, came with the Land Forces under his Command, on board a Squadron of Her Majesty's Ships, with divers Privateers and other Vessels off this Island; Several Shot were fired at us from the Shore, yet without doing us any other Mischief than the killing of a Man, and wounding a Boy on board the Commadore. We stood off and on till the 10th, waiting for Her Majesty's Ship the *Maidstone*, and our small Ships, which were off *Mary Galanta*, and when they were arrived we came to an Anchor on the North-West side of this Island, and some Parties of our Men were sent ashore to destroy some scattering Plantations of the *French*, which they did. The 12th, Colonel *Byam*, with his Regiment, and a Detachment of 200 Men of Colonel *Whetham*'s Regiment, landed by break of day at a Place called *Les Petits Habitants*, where they met with some Opposition, but soon obliged the Enemy to retire. About 9 in the morning Colonel *Whetham*, with 800 Men more, landed in a Bay to the Northward of a Town called the *Bayliffe*, where we met with a most vigorous Resistance of all the Enemy's Forces, posted in very good and advantageous Breast-works, plying us continually with their great and small Shot while we were Landing, and firing particularly in a more furious manner at the Flag: Yet notwithstanding all their Fire, our Men bravely marched up to their Intrenchments, with their Muskets shoulder'd, without firing one Shot till such time as they could come up to lay the Muzzels of their Pieces upon the top of the Enemy's Breast-works. We had three Captains killed at the head of the Granadiers, before we could make our selves Masters of the Enemy's first Breast-work; Colonel *Willis* signalized himself in this Action with great Bravery, and in a word both Officers and Soldiers fought with all the Courage and Resolution imaginable. By noon we were Masters of all the Enemy's Outworks; in an hour after of the Town called the *Bayliffe*, of the *Jacobine's* Church, which they had fortified, and of 10 Pieces of their Cannon; about two in the afternoon we took a Platform, where they had planted three Pieces of Cannon, and a Redoubt with one. At night a Detachment of 400 Men, and the Regiment of Marines, attacked the *Jacobine* Plantation, and the Breast-work along the *Jacobine's* River, which is perhaps the strongest and the most advantageous in all the *Indies*, which they quitted after we had fired but two Vollies of our small Shot at them; and indeed they generally made but a weak Defence, thô their Posts were the best fortified that ever were seen in these Parts, and might have cost us dear. The next day we marched without any other Opposition than of their Cannon playing continually upon us, and possessed our selves of the great Town called *Basseterre*, where we have continued ever since, sending out Parties to burn and destroy all their Houses, Works, Sugar Canes, and Provisions hereabouts. We laid Siege to the Fort and Castle of this Place, and are now advanced within Pistol-shot of the former, and within Musket-shot of the Castle; and we are working with all Diligence to get our Batteries ready, which will consist of 16 Pieces of Cannon, some whereof will begin to play before night.

Falmouth, May 3. A Sloop is lately arrived at *Penzance* from the *West-Indies*, the Master whereof reports, that before he came away Her Majesty's Forces in the *Leeward* Islands had taken the Island of *Guardalupa*, belonging to the *French*, and were gone from thence to *Martinico*, another of the Enemy's Settlements, where it is hoped they may have met with the like Success. Yesterday arrived here in two days from *Dublin* Her Majesty's Ships the *Bridgewater*, *Mermaid* and *Shoreham*, Captain *Gibson*, in the *Bridgewater*, being Commadore, together with 7 Transports, having on board Colonel *Meredith*'s and Colonel *Stanhope*'s Regiments of Foot, and 8 Merchant Ships under their Convoy, all bound to *Holland*. This day passed by here to the Westward a considerable number of our outward-bound Merchant Ships, under Convoy (as is reported by the Masters of some of our Tin Ships, who are come in from them) of 14 Men of War.

Bristol, May 5. This day came in here the *Hopewel* Sloop of *New York*, *Henry York* Master, in 5 weeks and 5 days from *Nevis*; A week before he came away from thence they had an Account, That Her Majesty's Forces, under the Command of Colonel *Codrington*, had taken the Island of *Guardalupa*, except the Fort at *Basseterre*, and another called the *Dadaw Peck*, into which the Inhabitants were retired with their Families and their best Effects; And that they had raised a Battery against the Fort, and as soon as their Cannon was come up, they did not doubt of being Masters of it in a short time; They had lost about 200 Men at their Landing. Her Majesty's Ship the *Feversham*, bound to *Ireland*, lies in *King's-Road* ready to sail with the first fair Wind; as do also several outward-bound Merchant Ships. The *Canterbury* and *Suffolk* Storeships are taking in Timber in *King-Road*, for the use of Her Majesty's Dock at *Plimouth*.

Portsmouth, May 6. Vice-Admiral *Leake* sailed yesterday in the afternoon from *Spithead* to the Westward, on board Her Majesty's Ship the *Somerset*, with intent to join Her Majesty's Fleet commanded by Sir *George Rooke*.

Whitehall, May 7. Sir *George Rooke* being taken so ill at Sea with a Fever and the Gout, that he is not in a condition to proceed on his intended Voyage, in pursuance of the Orders he had received from his Royal Highness the Lord High Admiral; *George Churchill* Esq; Admiral of the Blue, is appointed to command, in his room, that part of Her Majesty's Fleet wherewith he lately sailed from *Spithead* to the West-